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The Humble  
**ADDRESS**

Of the Right Honourable, the  
Lords Spiritual & Temporal

AND  
**COMMONS**

In Parliament Assembled,

Presented to

**HIS MAJESTY**

On the Seventeenth of *December*, 1695



*Printed at LONDON, and Re-printed at  
EDINBURGH, 1696.*

Die Mercurij 18. Dec<sup>r</sup> 1695.

**I***T is Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, do give Order, That the Address made Yesterday, to His Majesty by both Houses of Parliament, be forthwith Printed and Published.*

Matth. Johnson,  
Cleric. Parliamentor.



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The Humble

# ADDRESS OF THE

Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual  
and Temporal, and Commons in  
Parliament Assembled.

*Die Veneris 13 Decembris, 1695.*



E the Lords Spiritual and  
Temporal, and Commons  
in Parliament Assembled,  
having taken into our Con-  
sideration the State of the  
Trade of this Kingdom, Do  
find, That besides many  
other Disadvantages and  
Difficulties it now lies un-  
der, An Act of Parliament,  
that hath lately Received  
Your Majesties Royal As-  
sent in Your Kingdom of  
*Scotland*, for Erecting a

Company Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*, is likely to bring  
many great Prejudices and Mischiefs to all Your Majesties Sub-  
jects, that are concerned in the Wealth or Trade of this Nation;  
and therefore in all Duty to Your Majesty, and the Care we  
ought to have of this Kingdom, We do humbly Represent to  
Your Majesty, that the said Act does provide, "That all Ships,  
"Vessels, Merchandize, Goods, and other Effects whatsoever  
"belonging to that Company, shall be free from all manner of  
"Restraints, or Prohibitions, and of all Customs, Taxes, Sel-  
"ses, Supplies, or other Duties Imposed or to be Imposed by  
"Act of Parliament, or otherwise, for the Space of One and  
"Twenty Years: And farther, that the said Company, whole  
"Members, Officers, Servants or others belonging thereto, shall  
"be free both in their Persons, Estates and Goods Employed in  
"the said Stock and Trade, from all manner of Taxes, Sesses,  
"Supplies, Excises, Quartering of Soldiers Transient or Local,  
"or Levying of Soldiers, or other Impositions, dureing the space  
"of One and Twenty Years.

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By reason of which great Advantages Granted to the *Scots East India Company*, and the Duties and Difficulties that lie upon that Trade in *England*, a great part of the Stock and Shipping of this Nation will be carried thither; and by this Means *Scotland* be made a Free Port for all *East India* Commodities; and consequently those several places in *Europe*, which were Supplied from *England*, will be Furnished from thence, much Cheaper than can be done by the *English*: And therefore this Nation will lose the Benefit of Supplying Foreign parts with those Commodities, which hath always been a great Article in the Ballance of our Foreign Trade: Moreover, the said Commodities will unavoidably be brought by the *Scots* into *England*, by Stealth, both by Sea and Land, to the vast prejudice of the *English* Trade and Navigation, and to the great Detriment of Your Majesty in Your Customs. And when once that Nation shall have settled themselves in Plantations in *America*, our Commerce in Tobacco, Sugar, Cotton-Wool, Skins, Masts, &c. will be utterly lost, because the Priviledges of that Nation, Granted to them by this Act, are such, That that Kingdom must be the Magazine for all those Commodities, and the *English* Plantations and the Traffick thereof lost to us, and Exportation of our own Manufactures yearly Decreased.

Besides these, and many other Obstructions that this Act will unavoidably bring to the general Trade of this Nation "Another Clause in the said Act, whereby Your Majesty Promises to "Interpose Your Authority, to have Restitution, Reparation, "and Satisfaction made for any Damage that may be done to "any of the Ships, Goods, Merchandize, Persons or other "Effects whatsoever belonging to the said Company, and that "upon the Publick Charge; Does seem to Engage Your Majesty to Employ the Shipping and Strength at Sea of this Nation, to Support this New Company, to the great Detriment even of this Kingdom.

All which great Prejudices, Inconveniencies and Mischietts arising by the said Act, we in all Duty and Faithfulness lay before Your Majesty.

Matth: Johnson.  
Cleric' Parliamentor.